

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00

OPR-02 SY-05 USSS-00 OC-06 CCO-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

CPR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02

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-----032026Z 059144 /72

P 031700Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2014

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 4539

LIMA PASS TO ASST. SECRETARY TODMAN, STATE PASS USIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN), BR

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF PREPARATIONS FOR MRS. CARTER'S VISIT

REF: BRASILIA 4428

1. SUMMARY. THE BRAZILIAN PRESS HAS STEPPED UP ITS BACKGROUND AND INTERPRETIVE REPORTING ON MRS. CARTER'S COMING VISIT TO BRAZIL, MUCH OF IT BASED ON FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMENTS. JUNE 2 EDITIONS PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DENIAL THAT IT WAS INDIFFERENT TO UPCOMING VISIT, AND CARRIED COMMENT BY FONMIN SILVEIRA IN PARIS THAT MRS. CARTER COULD NOT HAVE BEEN THINKING OF BRAZIL WHEN SHE MADE ALLEGED REMARK, CARRIED IN BRITISH PAPERS, THAT SHE WOULD BE VISITING "THREE DICTATORSHIPS" AS WELL AS "FOUR DEMOCRATCIES." BRAZILIAN PRESS ALSO ASSERTED THAT VANCE-SILVEIRA MEETING IN PARIS AND SUPPOSED CESSATION OF USG PRESSURE AGAINST GOB-FRG NUCLEAR ACCORD WOULD CREATE A MORE POSITIVE CLIMATE FOR MRS. CARTER'S

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DISCUSSIONS IN BRASILIA. END SUMMARY.

2. JUNE 2 JORNAL DE BRASILIA FRONT-PAGED FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIAL OF RUMORS ALLEGEDLY CIRCULATING IN BRASILIA "DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY" THAT ITAMARATY WAS MAINTAINING "NEUTRAL" POSITION "OF NEAR NEGLIGENCE" TOWARDS UPCOMING VISIT. ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, IN INSIDE STORY ON

SAME DAY, NOTED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIAL AND FURTHER QUOTED SOURCE AS SAYING, "THE BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY IS MAINTAINING A 'CORRECT' ATTITUDE (TOWARD THE VISIT), BECAUSE IT IS NOT KNOWN EXACTLY WHAT TOPICS THE SPECIAL EMISSARY OF THE USG INTENDS TO DISCUSS BEGINNING MONDAY." THE SOURCE ADDED THAT THE VISIT AND DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY THE USG, AND SO IT THEREFORE FELL TO THE USG TO INDICATED WHAT MATTERS IT WISHED TO DISCUSS. ANOTHER FOREIGN MINISTRY SPECIALIST WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT MRS. CARTER'S PLANNED TALK WITH FINANCE MINISTER SIMONSEN IS PROOF OF THE VISIT'S SUBSTANTIVE NATURE AND INTENTIONS. AN ARTICLE IN THE PREVIOUS DAY'S (JUNE 1) ESTADO, HOWEVER, SAID THAT ITAMARATY WAS APPARENTLY MORE CONCERNED WITH THE VISIT'S FORMAL AND PROTOCOL ASPECTS THAN WITH SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS.

3. INSIDE ARTICLE IN JUNE 1 ESTADO POINTED OUT THAT GOOD RESULTS OF VANCE-SILVEIRA MEETING WOULD LIKELY PROVIDE "FAVORABLE CLIMATE" FOR MRS. CARTER'S VISIT (REFTEL). ARTICLE SAID "DIPLOMATIC SOURCES" IN BRASILIA BELIEVED THAT FIRST LADY WOULD BE BRINGING GOOD WILL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT GEISEL, INCLUDING POSSIBLE INVITATION FOR GEISEL TO VISIT US.

4. PROMINENT COVERAGE WAS ALSO ACCORDED FONMIN SILVEIRA'S STATEMENT IN PARIS THAT "THE NOTION OF DICTATORSHIP CANNOT BE APPLIED TO THE CURRENT BRAZILIAN REGIME," IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES ABOUT MRS. CARTER'S ALLEGED STATEMENT THAT SHE WOULD BE VISITING "THREE DICTATORSHIPS" AND FOUR DEMOCRACIES UNCLASSIFIED

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DURING HER CURRENT TRIP. "IF SHE SPOKE ABOUT DICTATORSHIPS, SHE DOULDN'T BE REFERRING TO BRAZIL," SAID SILVEIRA, WHO WENT ON TO ASSERT THAT "TO SPEAK OF DICTATORSHIP IN RELATION TO BRAZIL IS A LITTLE STRONG....(AS THERE IS) AN OPEN CONGRESS AND AN OPPOSITION (PARTY) WITH ITS ONW CONCRETE INFLUENCE." CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2471c785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRASILIA 4428
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2294768
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS COVERAGE OF PREPARATIONS FOR MRS. CARTER'S VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, BR, (CARTER, ROSALYNN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2471c785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009